



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Harilaos Kavvadias and Damianos Markakis
Serial No. : 10/501,799 Confirmation No. : 6624
Filed : 07/16/2004
Title : STRETCH FILM
Group Art Unit. : 1772 Examiner: William P. Watkins, III
Attorney Docket : MH0857US.RCE (#90556)

DECLARATION

I, Harilaos Kavvadias, declare and say as follows:

1. I am one of the inventors of the above-identified patent application.
2. I am the President and Managing Director of Mega Plast S.A., a corporation in Heraklion, Crete located in Greece.
3. I recently received from Prime Minister Costas Karamanlis, the Prime Minister of Greece, Finance and Economy Minister George Alogoskoufis of Greece and Development Minister Christos Falias of Greece the "Kouros 2007" Entrepreneursky Award in Athens, Greece.

4. My background includes the following schools I have attended:

MBA in Business Administration

5. I belong to the following professional organizations:

6. I have been actively involved in the development of plastic films since 1985.

7. Claim 1 of the present invention defines "at least one layer of strips consisting of a film material and extending in the main direction wherein at least one layer of strips is attached to the base between the rows of holes, said at least one layer of strips being devoid of said holes" and "wherein the strips are generally even, but at least without wrinkles." The limitation of the strips being generally even, but at least without wrinkles is an important aspect of the present invention, and is not disclosed by the prior art documents cited in the present Office action, namely, Paulett (US 5,935,681), Tiozzo (EP 0909721 A1) and Heikaus et al. (WO 01/60709 A1).

8. A reinforcement strip which is folded, as defined by the present invention, cannot be "generally even" or "without wrinkles." Rather, the folding itself is a big wrinkle. The reinforcement strip of the present invention has no wrinkles and no foldings, and thus is generally even. Folding of the reinforcement strip leads to rounded edges which could weaken the whole stretch film. There is a potential risk that the folded reinforcement strip could loosen from the basic stretch film. U.S. Publication No. 2005/0123721 to Heikaus et al. discloses folded sheets, and this point is conceded by the Examiner on page 5 of the present Office action dated March 18, 2008. Additionally, European Patent EP 0 909 721 to Tiozzo and U.S. Patent No. 5,935,681 to Paulett do not disclose the limitation that the "strips should be generally even, but at least without wrinkles."

9. Furthermore and regarding the Paulett reference, there is no explicit or inherent disclosure of the limitation in claim 1 that the weld/rim must have a thickness thicker than the thickness of the sheet. The specification of the Paulett does not discuss the thickness of the weld/rim at all. Further, it is not clear from Figs. 2 and 3 of Paulett if the

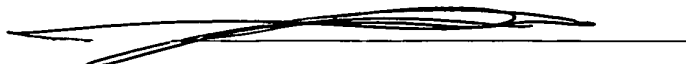
weld/rim is indeed thicker than the thickness of the sheet. It appears that the weld/rim of Paulett can be either the same or a lower thickness than the thickness of the sheet.

Therefore, Paulett does not disclose the limitation in claim 1 that the weld/rim must have a thickness thicker than the thickness of the sheet.

10. To the best of my knowledge, it has heretofore been unknown to avoid folding, to avoid the presence of wrinkles, or to surround each hole in the stretch film with a bead having a thickness exceeding the thickness of the base of the film, to increase the strength of the film or for any other reason.

11. Attached herewith is a sample of the stretch film according to the present invention, showing no folds or wrinkles and having a rim with a thickness greater than the thickness of the sheet.

12. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.



Harilaos Kavvadias
President and Managing Director
Mega Plast S.A.

18/06/2008
Date